



the RARA RAG

Published by
ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL.54

DECEMBER 2001

NO. 4

Seasons Greetings To All

Joint RARA/Kodak Ham Radio Club Meeting

Marykay Vesco, KC2DPG

If it weren't for radio, aviation as we know it would not exist. At the December's joint meeting with Kodak Ham Radio Club, Featuring Joe Hood, K2YA, we'll find out why. His presentation will uncover for us the various radio systems used in the world of aeronautics. Systems that will help keep our planes safe in the air and on the ground.

Joe is uniquely qualified to speak on the subject, for in addition to being an excellent speaker, he has been a ham radio operator since he was 12 years old, is an accomplished Electronic Engineer—recently retired from Eastman Kodak Co. and holds a pilot's license with instrument certification. Not a small feat to achieve.

This joint meeting of the two clubs will be held at Kodak's Theater on the Ridge, 200 Ridge Road West, Building 28. This is located on the North side of Ridge Road West, between Lake Avenue and Dewy Avenue. Plenty of parking is located across the street from the theater. The meeting will take place in the Camera Club's auditorium located in the basement.

This should be a very interesting meeting. See everyone there.

New Life Member

Richard Goslee, K2VCZ

The Board of Directors would like to welcome our newest Life Member, John L. Reid, N5THV who lives in Macedon, NY. The presentation of a special "Life Member" certificate and name badge will be made to John at a future meeting.

Life membership in RARA has always been available but was never shown as a separate line item on the membership application until this year. Life membership is available for a single payment equal to 20 times the current annual dues. For anyone under the age of 65 that would be \$300.00, or if you are 65 or older it would be \$200.00.

Thanks John for becoming a Life Member.

RARA Meeting

December 7, 2001

8:00 PM

Kodak's Theater On The Ridge

200 Ridge Road West

Aviation and Radio

Presented by

Joe Hood, K2YA

the RARA RAG

PUBLISHED BY

ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY 14692-8333

RARA Hotline 442-0587 Website: www.gvw.org/rara/

Editor.....Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU
652 Beverly Drive, Webster, NY 14580-2305 (585) 671-7079
Internet: wb2efu@frontiernet.net

Assistant Editor.....George Platteter, AA2FO
82 Colonnade Drive, Rochester, NY 14623 (585) 334-4488
Internet: aa2fo@rpa.net

VOL. 54 DECEMBER 2001 NO. 4

OFFICERS:

President: Peter Fournia, W2SKY.....377-0535
Internet: w2sky@arrl.net
Vice-President: Marykay Vesco, KC2DPG381-7773
Internet: kc2dpg@aol.com
Secretary: Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY.....334-7640
Internet: wb2sxy@arrl.net
Treasurer: Richard Goslee K2VCZ.....334-1762
Internet: rgoslee@rochester.rr.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Keith Freeberg, N2BEL.....458-8246
Internet: kff@frontiernet.net
Roger Harnaart, WB2BWQ.....292-6665
Internet: rharnaart@yahoo.com
Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH.....624-1929
Internet: n2eh@frontiernet.net
Bill Hopkins, AA2YV.....586-5009
Internet: w1hopkin@naz.edu
George Masny, KA2GPJ.....377-7853
Internet: ka2gpj@arrl.net
John Rogers, W2JTR.....352-3523
Internet: jtrogers@easynet.net
Jack Tripp, W2JAT.....381-7757
Internet: w2jat@arrl.net

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The RARA RAG (USPS 605-440) is published monthly except July and August by the Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc., 24 Elaine Drive Rochester, NY 14623. Subscription is \$5.00 per year (included in the annual membership dues and may not be purchased separately). Periodicals postage paid in Rochester, NY.

POSTMASTER - Send address changes to The RARA RAG, P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, New York 14692-8333. Full permission is granted for reprinting articles provided a credit line is given to the RARA RAG. The RAG exchanges, with other organizations' publications.

RARA Life Membership is available for twenty times the annual dues.

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The Prez Says

Peter Fournia, W2SKY

You may want to know about some interesting discussions that are continuing at the RARA Board Of Directors meetings. First, Bill Hopkins, AA2YV about 2 months ago, offered a promotional special event centered on the life and travels of Bertie Moll. Bertie Moll was an interesting entrepreneur who passed by Rochester over 150 years ago. This stimulated an idea by John Rogers, W2JTR who suggested an event with Rochester Sister Cities. Both ideas were researched and the sister city idea was favored. Feedback coming from the international sister cities committee has been very encouraging. We are continuing to investigate this international special event.

Keith Freeberg's, N2BEL pursuit of a BSA explorer venture program is bearing fruit. A program start up is imminent. Furthermore, the radio coaches program in a Jefferson Middle School 6th grade has also been noticed thanks to the pool of 10 hams who were teaching there for the past 3 years. The school has agreed to install HF and VHF antennas on the roof pending budget limitations. We are actively discussing a new 7th grade amateur radio program that we propose as a pilot program for ARRL's "Big Project". The 7th grade proposal has high educational value for the school and the same for new young hams. Stay tuned for more progress.

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH continues to maintain a good relationship with the Monroe County EOC. Migration into the new building on Scottsville Rd. is slow but continuing. The K2JD station at 111 Westfall Rd. will remain as a backup station. It is vitally important that we maintain a trained and ready pool of radio operators to staff these facilities. This is done by visible participation in public service events. They are also a testimonial to public officials of our skills and readiness.

LIFE, ACCIDENT & HEALTH AGENT

MARYKAY VESCO

KC2DPG

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Directory Deadline

Richard Goslee, K2VCZ

The deadline for updating the information in the "RARA Directory" is fast approaching. Check the mailing label on this issue of the *RARA RAG* and make sure your name, address and callsign are listed correctly. If there are any errors please let me know as soon as possible. Also, if you have two addresses, one for summer and one for winter PLEASE make sure I have both of them. The directory will show both addresses so your friends will know how to reach you at all times.

Corrections and/or additions to the directory can be sent to me by mail at the following address:

Richard A. Goslee, K2VCZ
24 Elaine Drive
Rochester, NY 14623-5306

If it is more convenient you can e-mail me at: RGOSLEE@ROCHESTER.RR.COM
The deadline for all corrections is December 31, 2001. Happy New Year.

The Auction Was A Success

Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

Thanks to everyone that participated in last months auction. You helped make it a large success. A lot of people were able sell their old unused equipment while many of you came away with a new toy. To those of you that this was the case, maybe it means a new mode or band for you to operate or just something new to play with. In either case enjoy your new treasures.

Not only did you sell or buy new equipment but you helped RARA by adding to its treasury to off set our operating costs. As you know, 10% of each sale goes to RARA. That along with the many items that were donated to RARA to auction off created a net gain to the treasury of \$557.10. This will be a big help to keep the educational fund going as well as to off set other operating costs. This is what helps keep your dues down to what they are.

Thanks again to everyone in making the auction a success.

DXCC, VUCC, WAS Awards Local

Ed Gable, K2MP

A new Service for ARRL Members starts immediately with local checking of your hard earned QSL cards for all major ARRL awards. Continuing his over 40 years of service to the Rochester Amateur Radio community, Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN, has just been approved by the ARRL to join a select group of Amateurs authorized to field check QSL cards. Ed has been checking VUCC and WAS QSL's for 12 years and just recently became eligible for checking DXCC cards.

DXCC Field Checkers need to be sponsored by a qualified DX association, endorsed by the Section Manager and Division Director, pass a written test and have demonstrated DXCC experience and award participation. Ed is a DXCC Honor Roll member and has worked 332 countries. These tight requirements are in place to assure the highest level of integrity within the ARRL Award programs.

To apply for an award the applicant needs to be familiar with the rules and application forms. These are easily down loaded from the ARRL web site at www.arrl.org. To arrange for card checking, either in person, at a Club meeting, at a Hamfest, or by mail, contact Ed Gable at (716) 392-3088 or e-mail via k2mp@arrl.net.

NEXT RAG DEADLINE DECEMBER 14, 2001



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Scholarship Available To Members

Richard Goslee, K2VCZ

RARA is pleased to announce that the second annual Scholarship will be available to a student attending College. The "Rochester Amateur Radio Association Memorial Scholarship" has been established with generous donations made in memory of A. Leland Zwack, W2WPF, William Buchan, W2OMV and William Resch, K4VOS. The scholarship is available to any licensed Amateur Radio operator who is or will be pursuing any degree of Associate level or higher in any accredited school beyond high school. The individual must be a member of RARA and a resident of New York State. The scholarship is for one individual for one year, but the recipient may reapply for subsequent years. Kellie M. Gauvin, KB2CHC was the winner of the first Memorial Scholarship, which was presented at the Hamfest Banquet last June.

Applications are due no later than April 15th. The RARA Board of Directors and Scholarship Committee will make a final decision by May 15th of each year. The actual award will be presented at the annual RARA Hamfest Banquet held shortly thereafter.

Applications for the scholarship may be obtained at RARA general meetings, by mail at P. O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY 14692-8333 or by calling the RARA phone at 442-0587. Additional information and a copy of the application is available on the Rochester Amateur Radio Association web site at <http://www.ggw.org/rara/scholarship.htm>, or from one of the officers.

Additional "tax exempt donations" in memory W2WPF, W2OMV, K4VOS or any other silent key may be sent to: Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc., Memorial Scholarship, P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY 14692-8333.

SILENT KEY

Charles Oneske, K2YCO

RARA Past President, 1962-63

November 10, 2001

Jamboree On The Air "Northern Lights Scouts Have Accents!"

Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY

The Scouts in Hartlee Poole, England, could barely understand the American Scouts because the "American Scouts have such an accent!" Language differences aside, of the 600+ Scouts that attended the Northern Lights District Camporee, about forty gathered to talk to other Scouts at the Jamboree On The Air. This is an annual International youth oriented amateur radio event, and was held locally this year at the Camporee. After the initial mike-fright, most of the kids enjoyed telling their contacts about their Scouting units, activities and other hobbies. "Radio conditions were fairly good." local organizers Van, N2BNE and John W3OAB commented while other ham radio operators and Scouts chatted with the Middle East, South America and Europe.

Northern Lights Scouts talked to other scouts in twenty states and thirteen foreign countries, via voice, digital radio links and Morse code about the Camporee's theme: The Dutch Oven Gathering. Local ham radio operators bring a lot of scouting experience to the JOTA effort, as they have served many years as scouting leaders themselves. Most of the operators on duty were members of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RARA), which is organizing a Ham Radio Explorer Post.

Thanks to all the people who helped light up the kids' faces for their communications experiences: Bill, WB2SXY; John, KC2DVX; Bob, KC2EMP; Mark, KC2GMG; Jack, W2JAT; Warren, AA2LQ; Joe, AB2ER and the coordinators Van, N2BNE and John, W3OAB.

Rochester Hamfest

ARRL

Atlantic Division Convention

May 31 and
June 1 and 2,
2002

Congratulations RDXA,

First Place ARRL Field Day

Ed Gable K2MP

RARA congratulates the members of the *Rochester DX Association* for their outstanding achievement in taking First place in the hotly contested and highly competitive Class 3A in the June 2001, ARRL Field Day. A group of about twenty active contesters skillfully applied their trade at the Webster Park venue, using three, 100-watt transmitters and a variety of high performance antennas. Both CW and SSB modes were used. Using every possible scoring advantage, RDXA members earned bonus points by using solar power, Novice/Technician stations, VHF/UHF stations, traffic handling points, and so on. The group has always been competitive and has been as high as third place in previous years.

RARA

Amateur Radio License Testing

All Elements Needed
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Saturday

December 15, 2001

Registration - 8:30 A.M.

Testing - 9:00 A.M.

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111 Westfall Rd., Rochester

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aa2fo@rpa.net

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ARRL "New Membership"

Discount Available

Richard Goslee, K2VCZ

As many of you know the ARRL has offered Affiliated Clubs like RARA a rebate on new and renewal ARRL Memberships that are processed through the Club. RARA in turn has passed that rebate back to the member in the form of reduced membership costs. That original program has ended as of October 1, 2001 and has been replaced with an even more aggressive program for new members to the League.

If you join the ARRL as a NEW MEMBER and process the application through RARA you will receive a \$15.00 discount for the first year. All renewals after the first year would be at the regular price. Quoting the ARRL: "A new member is defined as an individual who has never previously held ARRL membership OR an individual who has not been an ARRL member for two or more year. Renewal, lapsed, blind, family and youth memberships do not qualify for the discount."

Since RARA has no way to verify that a sign-up is truly a new member of ARRL, all applications will be verified at League Headquarters. If the applicant does not qualify for the discount then the membership term will be pro-rated based on the amount of funds received.

RARA will be obtaining a supply of the newly designed membership applications and the completed applications must be returned through RARA, not directly to ARRL. All payments under this unique new program must be made payable to "The Rochester Amateur Radio Association." RARA will in turn send a single check to the League for all the applications that are received each week.

RARA Meeting

December 7, 2001

8:00 PM

Kodak's Theater On The Ridge

Aviation and Radio

Presented by
Joe Hood, K2YA

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RARA RAG 20 Years Ago, December 1981

Ed Gable, K2MP

Covering half of the front cover, this issue showed *RARA's Charter of Affiliation* with the ARRL, dated December 21, 1931. As such, this month marks 70 years of affiliation. The December meeting was an interesting glimpse into the future when two Cartographers, associated with the Center for Government Research, demonstrated geographically oriented databases. Hosting the meeting was the *Kodak Park ARA* at their Building 28 location. Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, wrote of the pending move of the K2JD Club station from 350 East Henrietta Road to the current 111 Westfall Road site and the then new EOC. Reported in the Silent Key section was the loss of Fred Reynolds, W2VS, a long time local ham and the inventor/manufacture of Reyco Traps. Local Amateur Steve Pink, KB2GG, has left Rochester to join the gang at ARRL HQ as Training Program Manager. "Bus Radios" were all the rage as locals took advantage of the availability of low band VHF FM radios at give away prices from... the Bus Company, of course! Most turned up on 52.525 simplex and there was a Certificate awarded for working all bus radios. Great fun. Writing for the Rochester VHF Group, Bill Gillette, WB2KIW, encouraged everyone to help out in the January VHF contest. Rochester VHF Group meetings at that time were hosted by RF Communications. A new half page advertiser was Russ McKay, WA2CBU, promoting his new Classic Video store in East Rochester. From the want ads you could buy a Hammarlund HQ-180 receiver from Dave Selbert, KA2BOK.

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QSO Info Wanted

Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

Have you ever had any interesting or unusual QSO's on the air? They could be recent contacts or even ones from years ago. If so we would like to hear about them. The *RAG* editors will help you write your stories so that they can be published in our newsletter for all to enjoy.

At the last *RARA* Board Meeting the topic came up about how every so often people have a QSO with a new twist on topics. Some can be very amusing comments (even one liners—see Jamboree On The Air) and others could be with someone that you never thought that you would meet on the air. Maybe it was your first contact or while you were being an Elmer and helping a youth or new ham making his first contact. In any case, the Board's discussion ended with thinking that it would be nice to have our members share some of these experiences with others. Who knows? This could even turn out to be a contest to see who has had the strangest or most interesting QSO or comment made to them. Lets hear your stories!

Historical Bits

Ed Gable, K2MP

- 1934 - The newly formed Federal Communications Commission completely revamps the Amateur Licensing program. Class A, B and C licenses are offered at different privileges. Code speed is set at 13 wpm.
- 1938 - The 40-meter band becomes shared with Broadcasters and is never the same.
- 1955 - Technician Class Licensees are given 6-meter privileges.

Rochester Hamfest
May 31 and
June 1 and 2,
2002

China Clippings

Ronald Roach, W2FUI

Hangzhou City — My stay here in Hangzhou City gave me the opportunity to discuss with Mr. Han, BG1HZF, the vice-director of the Chinese Radio Sports Association, the latest changes in licensing procedures. According to Mr. Han the more supportive stance by the government has generated new regulations regarding the encouragement of foreign amateur radio operators to apply for a visitor license to operate stations designated as club stations during their stay.

Mr. Han indicated that simple application procedures filed with the CRSA headquarters in Beijing would result in the issuance of a license valid for one year. He noted that certain cities continue to be centers of club activity. Beijing, Nanjing and Shanghai, among others, support this involvement. In Shanghai, club station BY4AA is currently sponsored by a private enterprise company. However, the demise of city sponsored club stations, popular ten years ago, continues to hamper the growth of amateur radio. Mr. Han cited Hangzhou City as an example of low amateur radioactivity.

Although this city shares in a GNP growth rate of 7.5 % through the first three quarters of 2001, there is practically no activity. My friend Han Yi, BZ5HAN (not to be confused with Mr. Han of the CRSA) knows of one active amateur in this city of 1.6 million people.

The vice-director of the CRSA explained the disparity between the economic growth rate and the growth of amateur radio. The problem still rests with the prohibitive cost of purchasing and importing commercial amateur radio equipment. Han Yi verified that assessment.

Even though I mingle with throngs of consumers in department stores here in the city, discretionary income is still limited. As an example, Han Yi reminded me that monthly food costs still consume close to 55% of an av-



Han Yi, BZ5HAN

Thank You, Thank You!!

Richard Goslee, K2VCZ

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following members for their recent donations to RARA while they were paying their dues for 2002. Donations were received from: Carle Porter, Joseph Murano, Jack Tripp, Robert Knox, Michael Vesco, Jonathan Arney, Robert Rambo, Steven Verzulli, David Wilson, Patrick Piscini, Charles Truscott, Virginia Wells, Allan Pellnat, Eric Melenbacker, William Hopkins, David Selbert, Richard Schott, Joseph Silver, David Williams, Cecilia Zwack, Harold Manthey, Frank Lisuzzo, David Crawford, Donald Peters and Charles Vorndran.

If anyone else would like to make a "TAX DEDUCTABLE" donation to RARA, The Memorial Scholarship Fund, or the Radio Coaches Program just check the appropriate box on your membership renewal and indicate the amount you are sending. If you have already paid your 2002 dues and would now like to make a donation you can send it to P.O. Box 93333, Rochester, NY 14692-8333.

Again many thanks; we appreciate your continued support.

RARA HOTLINE
442-0587

erage family's wage.

On a personal note, the other evening I enjoyed sharing in the celebration of Han Yi's 29th birthday, along with his wife, Lin Ying, and several friends at a local restaurant. Since he was considered to be one year of age at birth, this celebration, if held in the United States, would mark his 28th birthday. Next month I will explore the initial efforts by the leadership of the CRSA to develop domestic radio equipment for the Chinese amateur radio community.

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